

New Mexico Highway 50 Transportation Issues



National Park Transportation Scholar
experience at:
Pecos National Historical Park

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NM Highway 50 Transportation Study

- ❑ Situation Overview
- ❑ Issue History
- ❑ Issues & Forces
- ❑ Resolution Approach



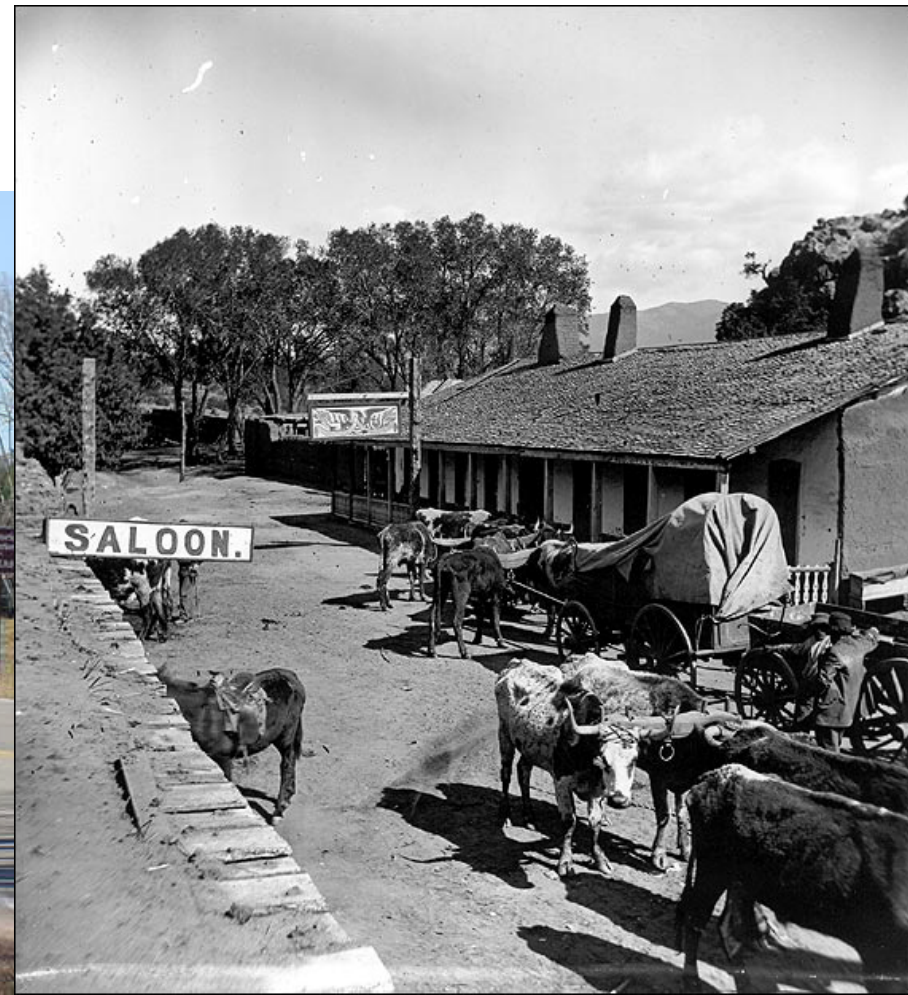
Pecos National Historical Park

- ❑ 12,000 years of traffic
 - Native pueblo and trading center
 - Spanish Colonialism
 - Santa Fe Trail
 - Civil War
 - Route 66





Glorieta Battlefield



NM Highway 50 Situation Overview

- ❑ Conflict of uses & interests
 - Historical Preservation & Interpretation
 - Regional transportation safety & capacity
 - Community needs and uses



Issue History (1)

- ❑ 1985: NMSHTD starts reconstruction plans
- ❑ 1990: Congress adds the Glorieta Unit
- ❑ 1993: Seismic Hazard inspection



Issue History (2)

- ❑ 1993-1996: NMSHTD alternatives analysis
 - Route design feasibility
 - lack of funds and no feasible alternative >> no results
- ❑ 2001: NPCA gets involved
- ❑ 2003: CWPT list of ten most endangered Civil War sites



Issue History (3)



- ▣ 2004: Funding allocated for study in FY 04 Federal Transportation Appropriations Bill
- ▣ **30+ year History** and No Progress!

Issues & Forces

- ❑ Historic Resources
- ❑ Regional transportation safety & capacity
- ❑ Contentious history



Resolution Approach

- ❑ Agency Partnership
- ❑ Public Involvement
- ❑ Commitment to a Solution



Thank you!



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